struction equipment to be adopted at the manufacturing stage. Noise limits for automobiles have to be met by 1992, while those for appliances have to be met by 1993.

(6) 28 areas around hospitals, 19 areas around educational institutions and 23 areas around residential offices have been declared as silence zones. Restrictions placed on blowing of horns in these silence zones outside hospitals and schools are being enforced by the Delhi Traffic Police. Prosecutions have been launched for violating the norms in silence zones.

**India's Foreign Trade**

1235. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
DR. RUDRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the position of India's Foreign trade in June, 1991 according to the external trade figures compiled by the Reserve Bank of India and the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence;

(b) what was the trend in April and May, 1991; and

(c) by when the process of correction of the imbalance in the foreign trade is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Reserve Bank of India as on date has not compiled the trade figures for June, 1991. According to provisional figures of foreign trade compiled by DGCI&S, Calcutta, India's exports amounted to Rs. 2573 crores during the month of June, 1991 as compared to Rs. 2314 crores during June, 1990, thereby showing an increase of 11.2 per cent. India's imports amounted to Rs. 3423 crores during June, 1991 as compared to Rs. 2926 crores during June, 1990 thereby showing an increase of 17 per cent. The trade deficit increased from Rs. 612 crores in June, 1990 to Rs. 850 crores in June, 1991.

(b) According to DGCI&S data, India's exports amounted to Rs. 2952 crores in April 1991 as compared to Rs. 2461 crores in April, 1990, registering an increase of 20 per cent. India's imports amounted to Rs. 2850 crores in April 1991 as compared to Rs. 3225 crores in April '90 thereby registering a decline of 11.6 per cent. The balance of trade shows a surplus of Rs. 102 crores in April 1991, as compared to a trade deficit of Rs. 765 crores in April 1990. In May 1991. India's export amounted to Rs. 2654 crores as compared to Rs.2620 crores in May, 1990, thereby registering an increase of 1.3 per cent. India's imports at Rs. 2990 crores registered a decline of 0.1 per cent as compared to Rs. 2992 crores in May, 1990. The trade deficit at Rs. 336 crores in May, 1991 registered a decline of 9.7 per cent as compared to Rs. 372 crores in May, 1990.

(c) The Government announced a package of trade reforms in July and August, 1991 which are aimed at strengthening export incentives and optimising the import compression. According to the provisional data for April-June, 1991, the trade deficit registered a decline from Rs. 1876 crores in April-June, 1990 to Rs. 1502 crores in April-June, 1991.

**Concept of service area approach**

1236. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the concept of Service Area Approach in rural areas has become redundent; and

(b) if so, what is the number of villages that has been surveyed by Nationalised Banks as per Reserve Bank of India guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The concept of Service Area Approach

was introduced by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from 1-4-1989 and a total of 618216 villages in the country were allocated amongst various branches of commercial banks including Regional Rural Banks for preparation of village profiles and service area plans. No separate record of number of villages surveyed by nationalised banks are available with RBI. The significant feature in Service Area Approach is the emphasis placed on the credit planning by bank branches at the grass root level. At periodical intervals, the progress of the branch credit plan for the villages covered as also the block credit plan is reviewed by the block level bankers committee. A review of the working of the above committees by RBI has revealed that such meetings are useful. It may not be correct to say that the service area approach has become redundant.

**Committee on Tax Collection**

1237. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the norms and guidelines for the 12 member committee set up to go into the issue of tax collection as appearing in the news item in the National Herald of the 25th August; and

(b) what are the names of the members of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) There is no such 12 member committee appointed by the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

**Purchase of Jute by Companies**

1238. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of jute purchased by various agencies during the current year; and

(b) what is the lowest price on which jute has been purchased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) Jute Corporation of India Ltd., has, so far, purchased 500 quintals of raw jute and mesta during the current jute year at minimum support prices at Rs. 380 per quintal for W5 variety of jute and Rs. 347.50 per quintal for M5 variety of Mesta in Saharsa and Madhepura districts of North Bihar.

**देश में मंदिरों का रख-रखाव**

1239. **मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आजमी:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने गत तीन वर्षों तथा चालू वर्ष के दौरान देश में मंदिरों के रख-रखाव के लिए कोई धन राशि उपलब्ध कराई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका वर्ष-वार ब्यौरा क्या है तथा प्रत्येक मंदिर को अलग से कितनी-कितनी राशि उपलब्ध कराई गई है;

(ग) किन-किन कारणों तथा परिस्थितियों के अन्तर्गत उन्हें यह धनराशि प्रदान की गई है;

(घ) क्या सरकार इस नीति पर पुनर्विचार कर रही है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

**संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और विधि, न्याय तथा कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रंगराजन कुमारमंगलम्):** (क) से (ग) भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण (भा०पु०सर्वे०) राष्ट्रीय महत्व के प्राचीन स्मारकों, स्थलों और अवशेषों की सुरक्षा, संरक्षण और परिरक्षण उनके विशिष्ट पुरातत्वीय, ऐति-